



Pre-Departure Briefing SEP to South Korea

Global Relations Office
Nov 2019

Who are we?

Global Relations Office (GRO)

What can we do for you?



Agenda

1. Highlights of SEP
2. Preparing for SEP
3. What to expect at your destination
4. Settling in
5. Homecoming
6. Networking

LIFE CHANGING STUDY EXPERIENCE

A stylized illustration of a person with dark hair, seen from behind, with their arms raised in a celebratory gesture. They are standing on a green hill. The background is a solid red color with several white, fluffy clouds. Above the person's head is a small sunburst icon with radiating lines. The entire scene is framed by a white filmstrip border on the left and right sides.

PRE-DEPARTURE VIDEO

https://share.nus.edu.sg/goabroad/Video/Pre-Departure_Video.wmv



STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

Stand out as a **global citizen** and **future-ready graduate** by embarking on SEP – our longest-running and largest student mobility programme – during your time at NUS!

What is SEP?

SEP is an **opportunity** for students to:

- 1 Spend **one or two semesters** studying at a partner university
- 2 Earn **modular credits** toward their major in a new academic setting
- 3 Immerse themselves in a **new place and culture**
- 4 Enjoy **tuition-fee waiver** from the partner institution, and pay NUS tuition fees for the exchange semester(s)



TOP REASONS FOR GOING ON SEP

(as reported by students)

- 1 To experience a different culture
- 2 Personal development
- 3 Travel opportunities



AFTER THEIR SEP EXPERIENCE...

100% Felt more capable of taking care of themselves

~99% Felt more sensitive to the needs of others from different cultures/backgrounds



SATISFACTION

99%

were either extremely satisfied or
satisfied with their exchange

98%

would recommend SEP to other
students



Preparing for SEP

ROAD MAP

- Set personal goals
- Find out about host destinations
- Plan itinerary
- Work out budget

After applying with
your host university

While waiting for
your acceptance
package

- Read pre-departure guide
- Attend country briefing

- Follow instructions in acceptance package (read carefully & meet deadlines)
- Apply for visa
- Book accommodation
- Make travel arrangements

Upon receiving your
acceptance package

STUDY PLAN

- Complete the module mapping process via EduRec by accessing your SEP application.
- Include some spare modules in your study list in case you are unable to secure your preferred modules or when your enrolled module(s) has been cancelled.
- Should there be any changes to your study plan, seek approval from your home faculty immediately.

Note: Students going to KU and SNU, please note that the domestic and exchange students register for courses at the same time through an online course registration system, on a first-come-first-served basis. Therefore, course registration can be highly competitive. Be prepared with the modules you need and some spare modules so that you can apply immediately once the course registration period starts.

PASSPORT & FLIGHT



- Ensure that passport is valid for 6 months after return date.
- Do **NOT** confirm flight booking until you have received the acceptance from the host university and gotten your visa.
- Arrive a few days before the start of the study period and attend orientation programmes.

VISA

South Korea

- Obtain a D-2-6 student visa before arriving in South Korea.
- Apply for the student visa at the Korean Embassy with the Certificate of Admission (CoA) issued by your host university along with other required documents.
- Collect a NUS certification letter from the Registrar's Office which are required for your visa application when collecting your host university's acceptance package.
- After arrival in Korea, apply for an Alien Registration Card (ARC)
 - **Do not leave the country before your ARC is issued**; otherwise your visa will automatically expire, making it illegal for you to study in Korea
 - **Remember to return the ARC** to the immigration office / immigration officer at the departure airport/port **upon final departure**. Failure to do so will result in a fine.

Preparing for SEP

VISA

South Korea

- Address of Consular Office:

Embassy of the Republic of Korea to the Republic of Singapore

47 Scotts Road #16-03/04, Goldbell Towers, Singapore 228233 (near Newton MRT station)

Opening hours for visa application and collection:

9 am to 11.30 am, Monday to Friday (closed on some Korean & Singapore public holidays)

Tel: +65 6256 1188 Fax: +65 6258 3302

Email: consg@mofa.go.kr (for visa enquiry)

HEALTH & INSURANCE

South Korea

- Mandatory Health Check-up

Most of the partner universities in Korea require exchange students to submit a health certificate including TB skin test and chest X-ray. Please check the requirement from your host university and the submission deadline. Kindly note that only the recent health check up result will be accepted.

Preparing for SEP

HEALTH & INSURANCE

- Before leaving
 - Get professional advice on vaccinations and medications
- If you have chronic health conditions, you may need to work out a health management plan with your doctor:
 - If you are taking medication, please continue
 - Make sure that your medication is available at your destination
 - If you intend to bring your own medication, please ensure that you are allowed to enter the country with the quantity

HEALTH & INSURANCE

- Have a comprehensive travel and health insurance coverage for the full duration of your stay abroad, including travelling. *Travel insurance is ≠ health insurance, different insurance covers different things.*
- Read through the coverage from the NUS Students Travel Insurance <http://www.nus.edu.sg/finance/InsuranceCoverforOfficialNUSTrips.html>.
- You may need to purchase additional health and/or travel insurance from your preferred agent.
- Bring along the emergency hotline numbers and a copy of your insurance policy.
- Report accident/loss at the earliest possible opportunity.
- Your host university will require a copy of your insurance policy.

ACCOMMODATION

Things to note:

- *KAIST*: Applies accommodation for all exchange students based on their indication in the exchange application form.
- *KU*: On-campus accommodation is located 20 minutes walk from the main campus – rooms are limited. Students are advised to apply early. There are various housing options available around the campus - refer to <https://gsc.korea.ac.kr/usr/service/accommodation.do> for off-campus options.
- *POSTECH*: On-campus accommodation is guaranteed at DICE (Dormitory for International Cultural Exchange)

Preparing for SEP

ACCOMMODATION

Things to note:

- *SNU*: Exchange students can apply for the Gwanak Residence Halls but not guaranteed. There are various housing options available around the campus - refer to http://oia.snu.ac.kr/page/c_housing_off.php for off-campus options.
- *Yonsei*: On-campus accommodation is limited and it is subjected to first come, first served basis. Please apply early or consider other off-campus options. You may contact Yonsei for help to source for off-campus accommodation.



COST OF LIVING

- The estimated cost of living for
 - SEP - including accommodation, food, transport and entertainment is S\$1,300 – S\$2,200 per month

Currency exchange rate as at 7 Nov 2019:
KRW1,000 = Approx. S\$1.180

- It is important that you record your expenses to make the most out of your budget and to ensure that your budget will last until the end of your SEP.

COST OF LIVING

- Tips on saving money:
 - Cook!
 - Look out for student discounts with your student card
 - Source for cheap groceries (supermarket vs wet market vs provision stores)
 - Plan your trips in advance or go on school trips
 - Use apps that give you discounts
 - Source for alternative means of travelling (bus vs train vs flights etc...)

Preparing for SEP

CHECKLIST OF THINGS TO BRING – DOCUMENTS

- ☐ Valid passport and visa
- ☐ Proof of acceptance by PU
- ☐ Study plan
- ☐ NUS transcripts (to facilitate module registration)
- ☐ Proof of financial support
- ☐ Letter confirming accommodation
- ☐ Receipts of payments made (housing, admin fees, etc.)
- ☐ Medical records (including vaccinations)
- ☐ Insurance
- ☐ Forms of identification (ISIC youth card, driving license, etc.)
- ☐ Bank draft/ credit card (activate for overseas usage)/ cash
- ☐ Confirmed flight ticket
- ☐ List of emergency contacts

Please remember to make a copy of all important documents. Keep separate sets in different places. You might also like to leave a set at home, so that these documents can be easily sent to you in the event that you lose those with you.

Preparing for SEP

CHECKLIST OF THINGS TO BRING – NECESSITIES

- ☐ Appropriate clothing
- ☐ First-aid kit
- ☐ Medication
- ☐ Adaptors/ chargers/ LAN cable
- ☐ Umbrella/ raincoat
- ☐ Appropriate footwear
- ☐ Toiletries
- ☐ Hairdryer
- ☐ Digital camera
- ☐ Photos and souvenirs of home/ Singapore
- ☐ Foodstuff
- ☐ Passport photos



DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER WITH MFA!

- Singaporeans/PRs should register themselves with Singapore MFA at https://eregister.mfa.gov.sg/eregisterportal/common/pr_eLoginEregisterView.action.
- NS men must notify MINDEF of their trip and apply for the Exit Permit if required at www.ns.sg.
- International students should contact their country's diplomatic missions.

3 Simple Steps on how to eRegister



Step 1: Decide if eRegistering for individual or group



Step 2: Proceed to eRegister



Step 3: Receive email/SMS acknowledgement

Preparing for SEP

PACK IT RIGHT FOR YOUR FLIGHT

The unauthorised carriage of dangerous or prohibited items by air may pose a risk to aviation safety. These items may seem harmless but can be a safety hazard when brought on board an aircraft. It is therefore important to comply with the regulations on the carriage of items and ensure that you pack it right for your flight.

Food?

Medicine?

Toiletries?

Cash?

Laptop?

Power bank?

PROHIBITED ITEMS Items not allowed on an aircraft	CHECKED BAGGAGE Items that must be checked in	HAND CARRY BAGGAGE Items that passengers can carry on board an aircraft
		
EXAMPLES*		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Explosive, flammable, corrosive or poisonous items▶ Firearms and weapons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Sharp objects▶ Bulky items▶ Liquids, aerosols and gels of more than 100ml	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Liquids, aerosols and gels kept in containers of not more than 100ml each<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All must fit into a transparent, re-sealable plastic bag with maximum capacity of 1 litre that is completely closed▶ Up to 2 spare lithium batteries for portable electronic devices (including power banks)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Packed individually to prevent short circuits• Must be hand carried, cannot be checked in
		



*Please note that the items listed above are not exhaustive.
For more information or additional restrictions, please check with your airline or visit www.caas.gov.sg/carriage_of_items.

CAAS
Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlbnnWyDalQ&feature=youtu.be>

What to Expect at Your Destination



What to Expect at Your Destination



Lotte World Tower
Photo credit: <http://english.visitseoul.net>

SOUTH KOREA

- A densely populated, fast-paced, culturally rich country
- Mix of new and old from modern skyscrapers and neon lights to traditional Buddhist temples, palaces and pagodas.
- Extremely technologically advanced country
- Vibrant cities with lots of festivals and events
- Varied and thriving nightlife – “station system” (restaurant, bars, pubs, karaoke, and more food and drinks); night market, themed café, gaming center etc.
- Generally a safe place to live and study
- Academic Calendar:
Spring: End February to Mid June
Fall: Early September to Mid December

What to Expect at Your Destination

UNIVERSITY CAMPUS



What to Expect at Your Destination



What to Expect at Your Destination

ACADEMIC CULTURE

- Longer block of seminar style/lectured-based classroom learning. No tutorial.
- Some professors may explain the lessons in Korean for the local students.
- Class discussions may also be conducted in Korean.
- You may ask the professors to explain the discussions to you in English after class
- Attendance will be taken at the host university.
- Most Korean universities have a strict attendance policy which restrict the no. of lessons you may missed per semester. Please check this out and adhere to the academic requirements.
- Find out about the academic expectations and examination format for your modules at the host university.

What to Expect at Your Destination

WEATHER (SPRING)

- It might still be cold when you arrive – check the weather before you leave and pack accordingly.
- Air will be cooling but dry in spring – bring a light sweater and put on lots of moisturizer.
- Bring along an umbrella or poncho as there might be bouts of showers in spring.



What to Expect at Your Destination

LIFESTYLE

South Korea

- With a population of over 25 million, there is not much room for personal space in Seoul. Pushing and shoving is a norm, and not seen as rude gestures. So if you are being elbowed in the subway or pushed while waiting in the queue, don't take it personally (but be aware and careful!).
- It is considered impolite to address a Korean with his or her given name (especially for your seniors). Address using their professional titles, or Mr, Ms, Mrs etc., until you are told to do so.
- Koreans may not like being touched by someone unfamiliar. Avoid touching, patting or back slapping a Korean until you have a closer relationship with the person.
- Koreans are generous people and enjoy giving gifts. Accept the gifts with both hands but never open the gift immediately. You may wish to prepare a gift in return.
- Always remove your shoes before entering a Korean home – follow the lead of your host if unsure.

What to Expect at Your Destination

LIFESTYLE

South Korea

- Food and dining are important parts of Korean culture and are used to build relationships. Koreans generally enjoy drinking but do not feel pressured and know your limit! Read up on the Korean Drinking Etiquette.
- Korean food are usually spicy. Traditional Korean meals are noted for the large number of side dishes (banchan) that accompany steam-cooked short-grain rice. The most prominent dish is "Kimchi" as it is the must-have dish in every meal.
- Korean is the main language of communication in the country. Be prepared that most of the local including the vendors do not speak English. Learn some basic Korean language and local lingo as it will help you better settle into lives there.
- Communication can be a little complicated in South Korea due to an emphasis on politeness and face. Discussions can be prolonged due to the avoidance of direct declining or refusing.
- <https://www.commisceo-global.com/resources/country-guides/south-korea-guide>

What to Expect at Your Destination

USEFUL THINGS TO NOTE

- Climate and time difference
- Exchange rate and cost of living
- Regional map and local transportation
- Local data/mobile plan
- Cultural similarities and differences
- Health and safety
- Airport pick up services / Buddy Programme
- Basic Korean Language (for getting around the city)
- Expectation and academic assessment at host university
- Activities for exchange students at host university



What to Expect at Your Destination

USEFUL RESOURCES

- Partner university specific information:
<http://www.nus.edu.sg/gro/student-exchange.php>
- Partner University application instructions and university information:
<https://share.nus.edu.sg/ng/Partner%20University%20SEP%20application%20material%20for%20s/Forms/AllItems.aspx>
- Read seniors' reports of host university:
<https://share.nus.edu.sg/ng/SEP%20Report/Forms/AllItems.aspx>
- On being prepared while overseas:
<https://www.mfa.gov.sg/Services/Singapore-Citizens/Travel-Tips>

Settling In

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR STAY ABROAD

- Always stay in touch with your family and friends back home.
- Activate the email account given by your host university to receive important notices and announcements.
- Check your emails from your host university and NUS frequently.
- Take note of your exam dates. If your semester overseas overlaps with the new NUS semester, start making arrangements for early exam or alternative assessments. If neither is possible, apply for an extension of your leave of absence from NUS.
- Don't just stick to Singaporeans! Make an effort to meet different people and be open-minded about differences.
- Even while having fun, make sure you are aware of any important academic dates and not miss any deadlines!
- If a problem arises, try to resolve it. However, if you are unable to, ask for help.

RESIDENCE PERMIT

- International students must apply for a residence permit (Alien Registration Card) at the Immigration Office within 90 days from the date of arrival in Korea. **Do not leave the country before your ARC is issued**; otherwise your visa will automatically expire, making it illegal for you to study in Korea.
- It is illegal to stay in Korea for more than 90 days without being registered.
- Please prepare the necessary documents for the application and follow the instructions given by your host university. The application process takes approximately 14-20 business days.
- Note that applicants must leave their passports with the Immigration Office during the entire approval period.
- **Remember to return the ARC** to the immigration office / immigration officer at the departure airport/port **upon final departure**. Failure to do so will result in a fine.

Settling In

SAFETY

- Safety should be the priority in all that you do.
- Assess the risk of what you are about to do and try to minimise and even avoid unnecessary risk.
- If confronted, give up your valuables and do not resist as your safety is the most important.
- Ask locals about any dangerous areas or locations that should be avoided.



Settling In SAFETY



In the rare event of a **FIREARMS** or **WEAPONS** attack

RUN » HIDE » TELL



RUN away from danger. Do not surrender or attempt to negotiate.



If escape is not possible, **HIDE**. Find cover and stay out of sight. Be very quiet and switch your phone to silent mode.



When it is safe to do so, **TELL** the Police. Call 999 or SMS 71999 if it is not safe to talk. Provide details on your location and the attackers. You may also use the SGSecure app to provide information to the authorities.

Source: https://www.sgsecure.sg/docs/default-source/default-document-library/sgsecure-yr2_visual1_rht_110517.pdf



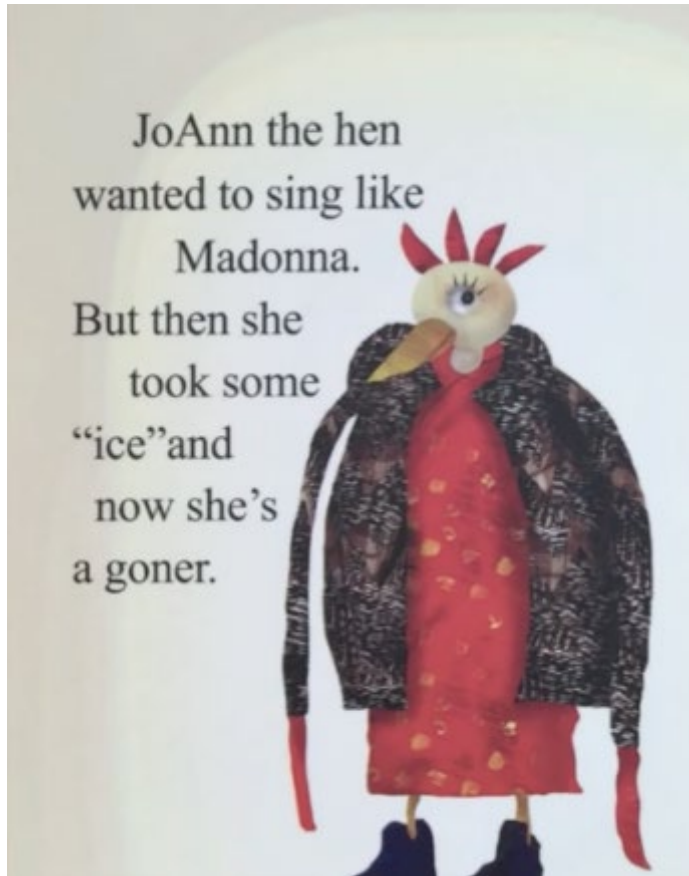
Settling In

EXPECTED CONDUCT

- Respect others and behave respectably too.
- You are representing yourself, your school and your country.
- Obey laws and regulations of host country, host university, Singapore and NUS.
- Read rules and regulations at host university and ensure that you do not violate them. (e.g. rules on plagiarism and cheating)
- Do not be pressured into anything. Just because everyone is doing it, doesn't make it right. Be comfortable being your own person.

Settling In

EXPECTED CONDUCT



- It is not true if someone tells you that it is not an offence to consume illegal drugs overseas. You can be arrested and face the same penalties as if the offence has been committed in Singapore.

FACT:

All Singaporeans and Permanent Residents found to have consumed illegal substances even outside Singapore will face the penalty if imprisonment of up to 10 years, fine not exceeding S\$20,000 or both.

Anti-drugs campaign by Singapore's Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB)

Hotline for Central Narcotics Bureau: 1800-325-6666 | Website: www.cnb.gov.sg

USEFUL CONTACTS

- Make your own list of emergency contacts
 1. Embassies/ High Commissions
 2. Local emergencies numbers
 3. Credit card and bank telephone numbers
 4. Insurance hotlines
 5. i-SOS App – emergency call option in the app (24 hours)
– non-emergency email contact Singapore@internationalsos.com
 6. NUS Emergency contact: +65 6874 1616 (24 hours)

**Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Duty Office (24 hours)**

Web: www.mfa.gov.sg

Tel: +65 6379 8800 / +65 6379 8855

Email: mfa_duty_officer@mfa.gov.sg

USEFUL CONTACTS – SOUTH KOREA

- Singapore Embassy in Seoul

Address: 28th Floor, Seoul Finance Centre, 136 Sejong-daero, Jung-gu, Seoul 04520

Phone: +82 (2) 774 2464

Email: singemb_seo@mfa.gov.sg

- Public Emergency Service

Call **112** for the police (dial 02-112 if dialing from a mobile phone)

Call **119** for fire or ambulance service (dial 02-119 if dialing from a mobile phone)

- Information about transportation, restaurants, travelling etc.

Call **1330** (24 hours service in English)

http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/TRV/TV_ENG_3_5.jsp for a list of useful e-guides

Settling In

MITIGATING CULTURE SHOCK



- Recognise feelings of surprise, disorientation, confusion, etc. is normal and okay
 1. Honeymoon phase
 2. Negotiation phase
 3. Adaption phase
- Talk to other students about how you feel about your host culture and hear from them
- Push yourself to make local friends
- Keep in regular contact with friends and family back home
- Join university and community activities
- Talk to a counselor if needed

Homecoming

BEFORE LEAVING YOUR HOST UNIVERSITY

- Say your goodbyes and 'thank you's
- Complete ex-matriculation process at host university
- Make sure your room is in a presentable state before leaving
- Follow NUS' deadlines for CORS module bidding and application for on-campus housing
- Prepare and submit your SEP report



Homecoming

THINGS TO DO WHEN YOU RETURN

1. Submit your SEP report
2. Complete the SEP Evaluation Survey
3. Complete module mapping and credit transfer (not done automatically!)
4. Secure your modules in NUS
5. Join the Welcome Back Session (briefing on re-entry and network with other returning students)
6. Join the Peer Advising Programme to build a community of Peer Advisors (PAs) consisting of students who have been on i-SP/SEP and are keen to contribute.



peeradvising@nus.edu.sg



<https://www.facebook.com/NUSPeerAdvising/>



@NUSPeerAdvisors



<http://www.nus.edu.sg/gro/student-exchange.php>

7. Help out at SEP outreach activities and help your juniors prepare for their SEP journey ahead

TAKE PART IN THE



**OUTSTANDING
NUS EXCHANGER
AWARD**

Take part in the ONE Award

- ☐ Represent NUS at your exchange university's exchange fair/ information session
- ☐ Join the NUS SEP Ambassador Training before leaving (*compulsory*)
- ☐ Join the Welcome Back Session upon return (*compulsory*)
- ☐ Participate in exchange events and activities upon return
- ☐ Collect your card at the SEP Ambassador Training and start accumulating points to be awarded the Outstanding NUS Exchanger Award

Depending on the award category, ONE Award recipients will receive:

- ☐ a **certificate**
- ☐ a **token of appreciation**
- ☐ a **personalized testimonial** (for Gold Award)

NAME: _____

MATRIC NO.: _____

SEP HOST UNIVERSITY: _____

SEP SEMESTER: AY _____ Semester _____

Things to note:

1. To qualify for the award, you must:
 - a. have completed at least one semester of SEP abroad, and
 - b. attend at least one of the compulsory activities.
2. You will receive a stamp for every activity you have participated in
3. You must submit proof of participation (e.g. a confirmation email and photos) for activities conducted at host university.
4. Accumulate points by participating in the activities stated:
Gold award = 8 points, Silver award = 6 – 7 points, Bronze award = 4 – 5 points.
5. Submit this log card to the Global Relations Office, SEP team by 30 May if you went on SEP in Sem 1 or by 30 Dec if you went on SEP in Sem 2.

BRIEFING & NETWORKING

1 point for every activity participated in this category.

NUS AMBASSADOR
TRAINING
PROGRAMME

Compulsory

WELCOME
BACK SESSION

Compulsory

BRIDGE
NETWORKING
SESSION

PAL'S EVENTS^A

^ASign up as a Peer Advisor to receive invites to PAL's events.

OUTREACH

2 points for every activity participated in this category.

HELP OUT AT
STUDENT
EXCHANGE FAIR

CONDUCT NUS
INFORMATION
SESSION

To be conducted at the host university.

HELP OUT AT
INTERNATIONAL
EXCHANGE DAY^{*}

SHARE EXCHANGE
EXPERIENCE AT
SEP TALKS

To be conducted at the NUS.

^{*}Help out by manning IED booth and/or share exchange experience at IED talks.



SEP Ambassador Training

SESSION ONE

Date : Mon, 9 Dec 2019

Time : 2pm – 4pm

Venue : Global Lounge
Shaw Foundation Alumni House, L1

SESSION TWO

Date : Wed, 11 Dec 2019

Time : 2pm – 4pm

Venue : Global Lounge
Shaw Foundation Alumni House, L1

Tips & Advice

Contributed by Returning Students

Don't just stick to your Singaporean clique! Go out there & make friends with the other exchange students & especially the Koreans! That's how exchange should be.

Record your spending and budget carefully.

As you are having fun, taking care of your belongings, and most importantly – health.

Bring a travel adapter. An extension plug would be useful as well.

Plan and schedule the activities that you want to do in Korea so that you will not end up missing the opportunity to do them. Some sports activities are only available during certain seasons, or are not available during winter as it is too cold.

Learn some basic language of the host country before going, especially money, directions and food.

Cherish all opportunities of making new friends.

China Eastern Airlines is cheap and provides meals and in-flight entertainment (subject to the plane you are on). The most irresistible part is that it offers 2x23kg of luggage, compared to only 23kg on most other airlines.

Try to pack light, especially for clothing as luggage space will be an issue. Almost all of my friends, including me, had to send things back beforehand as we had too much luggage.

Reach a few days early to acclimatize and settle down.

Tips & Advice

Contributed by Returning Students

Opening a Korean bank account was very useful for me. I did not have to keep large amounts of cash locked in my room. It was very convenient having a debit card. We could also buy things online, such as book intercity bus tickets for trips out of Seoul.

Be prepared to remap modules as the modules available are not clearly specified online.

The delivery system in Korea is very efficient and it is also cheap so if you need to buy anything, ordering them online and getting them delivered to your house might actually be cheaper and more convenient than travelling elsewhere to get the items, depending on what you buy.

Bring a good warm jacket, preferably windproof and have a hood. Seoul tends to be cold, even during autumn as the winds are very strong. The winds are even stronger and colder during winter. Thick furry gloves and warm scarves are essential during winter.

The Korean culture has many rules and etiquettes hence it is good if students can read up on some of the common ones before they go on exchange so that they can easily understand and adapt well to the culture when they are there.

Step out of your comfort zone and try out new things during SEP. You will then see that you are more capable than you thought you were.

Tips & Advice

Contributed by Returning Students

If you have already done sufficient research and set a budget, consider changing all your KRW in Singapore and bringing them to Korea as you can save on atm fees/banking transaction fees e.g. I transferred \$2000 to my Shinhan bank account and the transaction cost was \$55 plus around \$20 loss on exchange rate.

If you are planning to travel to parts of Korea which requires plane rides (e.g. Jeju) , it will be good to plan and schedule the activities in advance as prices will be cheaper and there will be more options available for accommodations.

Keep a diary. Pictures can tell a thousand words but it can't articulate a whole story.

Do prepare multiple copies of important documents such as passport photographs, photocopies of passport and visa etc. as some procedures require them such as making of bank cards and alien registration cards. It would be much more convenient than printing them in Korea.

Create a list of all the places you want to visit and food you want to eat. Make sure to clear everything on your to-do list. Try to do as much as possible at the start of the semester as that's when you have the most time and have the most amount of money.

Tips & Advice

Contributed by Returning Students

Do your research early, take the initiative to participate in activities, and make a concerted effort to interact with people outside of the group of friends you went on exchange with.

Would be good to travel with at least one person who can speak Korean! It's not required but very helpful (for getting around, buying food etc) as many Koreans do not speak English well. Travel is very convenient and affordable if you purchase a T-money card (it's like an EZ-link card). Korea's subway system is very well developed and many places are accessible by just train and walking. There are many apps that help you get to your desired location easily available in English. If you would like to travel to different parts of Korea, the KTX rail is fast and reliable.

Have an open mind on your exchange and do have a list of your must-dos at the beginning of the trip. You may think you have a lot of time, but you may find yourself running out of time towards the end of the trip so do plan in advance.

Things don't always go according to plan and I hope future outgoing students will keep this in mind as well and instead learn how to adapt to changes.

If you love your home-cooked Singaporean food, I advise you to prep some condiments or whatever into your luggage first and make your own meals in Korea.

Tips & Advice

Contributed by Returning Students

Useful Applications



Subway



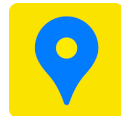
Bus Tago



고속버스 모바일



KakaoTalk



KakaoMap



Naver Dictionary



Meetup



Trazy



Papago

Telecom

- EG Sim Card
- KT Olleh
- Data passport



Banking

- Apply through school to get a local bank (need to incur transaction fee but ATM can be found anywhere)
- Citibank (no fee but limited ATM)
- T-money card (for public transport)



WELCOME TO YOUR
SEP ADVENTURE!

